



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **Yasuhide HAMADA et al.**

Group Art Unit: **2852**

Serial No.: **10/691,548**

Examiner: **Ryan M. Gleitz**

Filed: **October 24, 2003**

Confirmation No.: **7496**

For: **FIXING APPARATUS**

Attorney Docket Number: **032010**

Customer Number: **38834**

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: June 7, 2005

Sir:

In response to the requirement for an election of species dated April 7, 2005, applicants provisionally elect to prosecute Species I, Figs. 1 to 7. It is believed that claims 1-9 read on the elected species. The applicant reserves the right to file divisional applications on the non-elected claims.

The applicant respectfully requests an early examination on the elected claims and favorable action on the merits. If the Examiner has any questions with this Response, please feel free to call the undersigned at the indicated telephone number.

Response to Election of Species Requirement

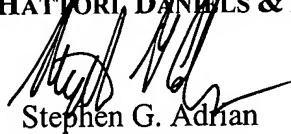
Serial No. 10/691,548

Attorney Docket No. 032010

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicant(s) respectfully petition(s) for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stephen G. Adrian', is written over the printed name.

Stephen G. Adrian

Attorney for Applicants

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SGA/arf